

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 3670

S E C R E T LUSAKA 1849

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOR SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: JOSHUA NKOMO'S TRAVEL PLANS AND REQUEST FOR
CONTACT ASSISTANCE IN SAUDIA ARABIA AND IRAN

1. ANC INTERNAL WING LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO CALLED AT RESIDENCE
SATURDAY, JULY 17 AT HIS REQUEST IN COMPANY OF AIDE EDWARD
NDLOVU IN FOLLOW UP TO CONVERSATION HE HAD IN LUSAKA JULY 12
WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE. NKOMO HAD TWO MESSAGES
REGARDING: A) HIS TRAVEL PLANS OVER NEXT MONTH RELATIVE TO
"RESPONSE" HE EXPECTING FROM SECRETARY; AND B) HIS REQUEST THAT
SECRETARY ARRANGE FOR HIM TO MEET WITH KING OF SAUDI ARABIA
AND SHAH OF IRAN SOMETIME BETWEEN AUGUST 24 AND 27.

2. NKOMO SAID HE DEPARTS LUSAKA JULY 18 FOR TRAVEL "WITHIN AREA"
AND WOULD RETURN TO LUSAKA EN ROUTE BACK TO SALISBURY WITHIN
WEEK OR TWO. ONE OF THE PURPOSES IN RETURNING TO RHODESIA IS
TO START PREPARATION FOR ANC CONGRESS TO BE HELD INSIDE RHODESIA
SOMETIME IN OCTOBER. SAID HE WOULD NOT VISIT U.S. UNTIL AFTER
THIS CONGRESS. HE WANTED TO ALERT SECRETARY TO HIS TRAVEL PLANS
SO THAT "RESPONSE" HE EXPECTING ON BASIS HIS TALK WITH SCHAUFELE
MIGHT FIND HIM HERE IN LUSAKA ON HIS RETURN. I TOLD HIM THAT
IF MESSAGE CAME AFTER I DEPARTED POST JULY 24 IT COULD BE
DELIVERED VIA CHARGE CLINGERMAN WHO TAKING OVER PENDING ARRIVAL

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MY SUCCESSOR POSSIBLY SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER.

3. SECOND MESSAGE FOR WHICH NKOMO AND NDLOVU INDICATED SOME URGENCY (PERHAPS TO MAKE RELATED TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS) WAS QUESTION OF WHETHER SECRETARY WOULD BE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE INTRODUCTIONS TO KING KHALID OF SAUDI ARABIA AND SHAH PAHLAVI OF IRAN BOTH OF WHOM NKOMO ANXIOUS TO MEET, PRESUMABLY IN SEARCH OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH THIS NOT SAID. HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THIS WOULD BE DONE THROUGH U.S. EMBASSIES IN CAPITALS THERE, OR COULD BE HANDLED THROUGH SINGLE MESSAGE TO LUSAKA.

4. DURING SMALL TALK OVER COFFEE NKOMO SAID THERE NO INDICATION WHETHER THREE FRONTLINE PRESIDENCES (NYERERE, KAUNDA AND KHAMA) HAD DISCUSSED LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE DURING RECENT TAZARA CEREMONIES HERE, "AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T TELL ME IF THEY DID", NKOMO SAID. AS TO CHINESE ROLE IN ZIMBABWE LIBERATION THERE WAS MENTION THEY HAD HELPED OTHERS (REFERENCE TO EX-ZANU) BUT NDLOVU SAID CHINESE HAVE "NOT BEEN HOSTILE TO US NOR WE TO THEM". NKOMO INDICATED HE DELIBERATELY LEAVING DOOR OPEN FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE HELP FROM CHINESE.

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